

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Katsumi AOYAGI *et al.*
Title: METHOD OF DETECTING HEPATITIS C VIRUS
Appl. No.: 10/577,853
International Filing Date: 10/28/2004
371(c) Date: 10/17/2007
Examiner: Zachariah Lucas
Art Unit: 1648
Confirmation Number: 4864

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND ELECTION OF SPECIES

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement set forth in the Office Action mailed October 9, 2009, Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Group I, claims 1-12. Applicants reserve the right to pursue non-elected subject matter in divisional applications with the same right of priority as the present application.

In response to the requirement for election of species, Applicants make the following provisional elections:

1. Within claim 5, the species of hydrochloric acid.
2. A combination of an species (b) amphoteric surfactant (claims 1, 2 and 7) with species (c) a cationic surfactant (claims 1, 2 and 7).

3. Within claim 6, the species of N-tetradecyl-N,N-dimethyl-3-ammonio-1-propanesulfonate.
4. Within claim 7, the species of decyltrimethylammonium bromide.

The elected species read on claims 1-7. The election of species is solely for initial search and examination such that, upon the identification of allowable subject matter in the elected species, the non-elected claims will be rejoined and examined.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned if it is believed that telephone communication would assist examination and expedite prosecution.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If the payment is incorrect or missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to the deposit account. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicants hereby petition for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorize payment of extension fees from the deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

Date November 6, 2009

By 

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